

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
NEWS-PRESS

E-46,242
S-50,717

JUN 28 1968

Timely Observations

BOOKS WORTH READING:

Thanks to Pat McCartney, circulation department head, over at Central Public Library, we have just finished two new books that are most engrossing. One is "The Real CIA" by Lyman B. Kirkpatrick Jr., former executive director of the Central Intelligence Agency. The other is "The Fall of Japan" by William Craig, a scholar who has made a study of the end of the Empire of modern Japan.

The CIA book is not a whitewash of that worthy organization, though the author long was associated with it. Nor is it a biased critical review of the tremendous task of this behind-the-scenes efforts of the United States in the sphere of foreign affairs. It gives dispassionately the strengths and the weaknesses of this highly controversial branch of the executive branch of the United States government.

Author Kirkpatrick began his own distinguished career in Intelligence with the CIA's foster father the OSS, but joined the CIA shortly after its inception in 1950. If for no other reason you should put your name down for this book and read carefully the story of our affairs with Cuba, that complex situation concerning Batista and the man who overthrew him, Fidel Castro. You will re-read the story of the Bay of Pigs invasion, and you may get more light on that unfortunate affair that will make you stop and think.

You may have read but have forgotten other incidents in which the CIA was so closely entangled. For instance, the Suez invasion and the U-2 incident. In fact there are angles in those two phases of our foreign policy we had not ever read before, and maybe you have not. This book is the story of the three CIA directors and four Presidents. Only a man who like Mr. Kirkpatrick has given more than a score of years to government service can write intelligently, and far more important, has the courage to do so.

Our own conviction after a careful study of this book is that the CIA has been damned by too many people, yes, by the press too. This book gives you a clearer insight into the differences between CIA and the President, between the CIA and the FBI, and most of all the differences between CIA and State Department, to say nothing of all branches of our armed services.

The story of the fall of Japan was an eye-opener to this newspaper man. We thought we had read all there was to read by following the news of the passing weeks in press and magazines. There were tumultuous months in the final weeks of World War II in the Pacific when Japan had to choose between surrender and total annihilation. Author Craig has interviewed high men in America and in Japan. He writes in an easy manner and, so that you can read all, in an easy manner.

President Harry S. Truman comes out a greater figure than even we of Missouri who approved his grave decision, dropping of the A bombs on those two Japanese cities. You will think the less of Soviet Russia when you read of the double-dealing of Josef Stalin. He wanted the help of Britain and America, of course, to beat Germany. But he held back from declaring war on Japan. He did that last only after he saw what the annihilating A bomb could and did do to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We never cared for Stalin and cared even less for him after reading William Craig's mas-

In our opinion Author Craig does justice by General Douglas MacArthur, who left beleaguered Bataan only under orders from Commander-in-Chief Franklin D. Roosevelt. You will have deepest sympathies with the man Doug had to leave behind, General Jonathan Wainwright. The meeting of Wainwright and MacArthur after the fall of Japan is most touching. Yes get these two books as soon as you can.

C.I.A. 1.03 Kirkpatrick, Lyman B.
Sec. 4.01.2 The Real C.I.A.